



# Tennessee News Release

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

## Tennessee Cattle Inventory Lowest Since 1959

**NASHVILLE, February 1, 2013** - The total number of cattle and calves in Tennessee on January 1, 2013, was 1.83 million head, 7 percent below last year’s inventory and the lowest in over 50 years. This also marks the third consecutive year of declining inventory. Information in this report is based on a recent survey conducted by USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service, Tennessee Field Office. Debra Kenerson, State Director, remarked, “During the year Tennessee farmers liquidated some of their herds due to drought.” Results of the survey showed the following breakout on January 1, 2013, with comparison to the previous year: **beef cows** 912,000, down 4 percent; **milk cows** 48,000, down 4 percent; **calves less than 500 pounds** 440,000, down 4 percent; and **steers weighing 500 pounds and over and other heifers** 195,000 head, down 25 percent; **2012 calf crop** 880,000 head, down 4 percent.

## United States Cattle Inventory Down 2 Percent

All cattle and calves in the United States as of January 1, 2013 totaled 89.3 million head, 2 percent below the 90.8 million on January 1, 2012. This is the lowest January 1 inventory of all cattle and calves since the 88.1 million on hand in 1952. All cows and heifers that have calved, at 38.5 million, were down 2 percent from the 39.4 million on January 1, 2012. This is the lowest January 1 inventory of all cows and heifers that have calved since the 36.8 million head in 1941.

Beef cows, at 29.3 million, were down 3 percent from January 1, 2012. Milk cows, at 9.2 million, unchanged from January 1, 2012. Other class estimates on January 1, 2013 and the change from January 1, 2012, are as follows: All heifers 500 pounds and over, 19.1 million, down 1 percent. Beef replacement heifers, 5.4 million, up 2 percent. Milk replacement heifers, 4.6 million, down 2 percent. Other heifers, 9.2 million, down 3 percent. Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 15.8 million, unchanged. Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.1 million, down 2 percent. Calves under 500 pounds, 13.8 million, down 2 percent. Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all feedlots, 13.4 million, down 5 percent. The combined total of calves under 500 pounds, and other heifers and steers over 500 pounds outside of feedlots was 25.5 million, up 1 percent.

## United States Calf Crop Down 3 Percent

The 2012 calf crop was estimated at 34.3 million head, down 3 percent from 2011. This is the smallest calf crop since the 33.7 million born during 1949. Calves born during the first half of 2012 are estimated at 25.0 million, down 3 percent from 2011.

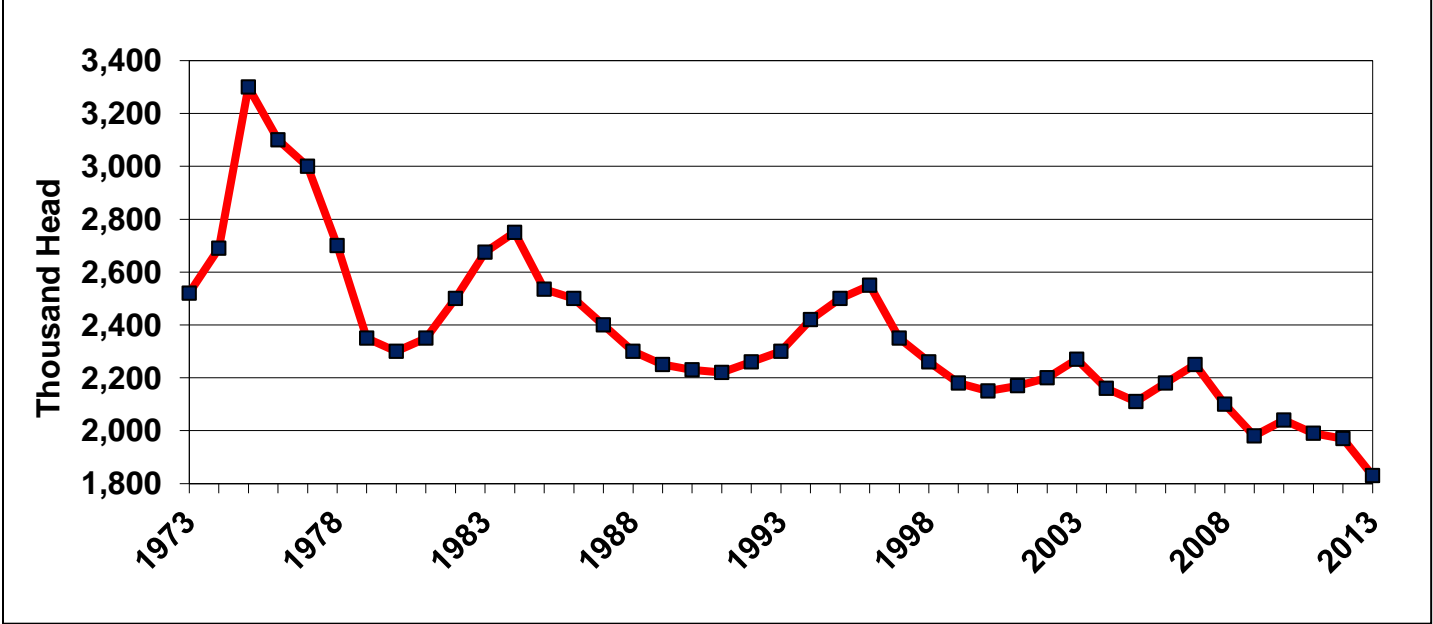
Cattle and Calves: Number by Class, Tennessee and U.S., January 1, 2012-2013

Class	Tennessee			United States <sup>1</sup>		
	2012	2013	2013/2012	2012	2013	2013/2012
	Thousand Head		Percent	Thousand Head		Percent
All Cattle and Calves	1,970	1,830	93	90,769	89,300	98
All Cows that Have Calved	1,000	960	96	39,387	38,515	98
Beef	950	912	96	30,158	29,295	97
Milk	50	48	96	9,230	9,220	100
Heifers, 500 pounds and over	280	240	86	19,338	19,129	99
Beef Cow Replacement	150	145	97	5,262	5,361	102
Milk Cow Replacement	30	25	83	4,622	4,551	98
Other	100	70	70	9,454	9,218	97
Steers, 500 pounds and over	160	125	78	15,833	15,813	100
Bulls, 500 pounds and over	70	65	93	2,096	2,056	98
Calves, under 500 pounds	460	440	96	14,115	13,787	98
Calf Crop <sup>2</sup>	920	880	96	35,313	34,279	97
Cattle on Feed	9	3	33	14,121	13,352	95

<sup>1</sup> May not add due to rounding. <sup>2</sup> Calves born during previous 12 months.

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### Tennessee Cattle Inventory, January 1, 1973 - 2013



### Tennessee Goat and Sheep Inventory Down 6 Percent

The total number of meat goats in Tennessee on January 1, 2013, was 114,000 head, down 7,000 head from 2012. Milk goats totaled 8,600 head, a decrease of 400 head from the previous year. The total number of sheep and lambs in the State on January 1, 2013, was 33,000 head, down 2,000 head from a year ago. Breeding inventory was 28,000 head, unchanged from a year ago; while market inventory decreased to 5,000 head, 2,000 less than last year. Tennessee’s lamb crop decreased 2,000 from last year to 24,000 head.

### Sheep & Lambs, Meat &Other Goats: Number by Class, Tennessee and U.S., January 1, 2012-2013

Class	Tennessee			United States <sup>1</sup>		
	2012	2013	2013/2012	2012	2013	2013/2012
	Thousand Head		Percent	Thousand Head		Percent
All Sheep and Lambs	35.0	33.0	94	5,365	5,335	99
Breeding, Sheep and Lambs	28.0	28.0	100	3,995	3,975	99
Ewes, One Yr. & Older	21.0	21.0	100	3,165	3,140	99
Rams, One Yr. & Older	2.0	2.0	100	170	175	103
Replacement Lambs	5.0	5.0	100	660	660	100
Total Market	7.0	5.0	71	1,370	1,360	99
Market Lambs	6.5	4.5	69	1,286	1,285	100
Market Sheep	0.5	0.5	100	84	75	89
Lamb Crop <sup>2</sup>	26.0	24.0	92	3,510	3,455	98
All Milk Goats and Kids	9.0	8.6	96	360	360	100
All Meat/Other Goats and Kids	121.0	114.0	94	2,356	2,315	98

<sup>1</sup> May not add due to rounding. <sup>2</sup> Lambs and kids born during previous 12 months.

### United States Sheep and Lamb Down 1 Percent

All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on January 1, 2013, totaled 5.34 million head, down 1 percent from 2012. Breeding sheep inventory decreased to 3.98 million head on January 1, 2013, down 1 percent from 4.0 million head on January 1, 2012. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.14 million head, were 1 percent below last year. Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2013, totaled 1.36 million head, down 1 percent from January 1, 2012. Market lambs comprised 94 percent of the total market inventory. Twenty-three percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 12 percent were 65 - 84 pounds, 22 percent were 85 - 105 pounds, and 37 percent were over 105 pounds. Market sheep comprised the remaining 6 percent of total market inventory.

The 2012 lamb crop of 3.46 million head, was down 2 percent from 2011. The 2012 lambing rate was 109 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2012, unchanged from 2011. Sheep death loss during 2012 totaled 229 thousand head, a decrease of 5 percent from 2011. Lamb death loss decreased 4 percent from 380 thousand head in 2011 to 365 thousand head in 2012.

### United States Goat and Kid Inventory Down 2 Percent

All goat inventory in the United States on January 1, 2013, totaled 2.81 million head, down 2 percent from 2012. Breeding goat inventory totaled 2.32 million head, down 2 percent from 2012. Does one year old and older, at 1.73 million head, were 2 percent below last year's number. Market goats and kids totaled 490 thousand head, up one percent from a year ago. Kid crop for 2012 totaled 1.79 million head for all goats, down 5 percent from 2011. Meat and all other goats totaled 2.32 million head on January 1, 2013, down 2 percent from 2012. Milk goat inventory was 360 thousand head, unchanged from January 1, 2012, while Angora goats were down 7 percent, totaling 136 thousand head.

Mohair production in the United States during 2012 was 770 thousand pounds. Goats and kids clipped totaled 136 thousand head. Average weight per clip was 5.7 pounds. Mohair price was \$3.89 per pound with a value of 2.99 million dollars.